

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Before entry of the present amendment, Claims 1-9 were pending, and presently, Claims 1 and 3-9 stand rejected. Claims 2, 3, 7 and 8 have been amended. Claims 1, 4-6 and 9 have 5 been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 2 has been previously allowed, and was amended only to put into independent form. The remaining claims were rejected only based upon 35 U.S.C. 112, and have been amended in an attempt to clarify the scope of these claims in a manner to avoid such ambiguities.

Therefore, in view of foregoing amendments and clarifications, the applicant submits 10 that allowance of the present application and all remaining claims, as amended, is in order and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,
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